

the KALIFORNSKI

Since 1979

NEWSLETTER OF THE YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.

P.O. Box 226, Watsonville, California 95077

No. 113 November 1988

(A NON-PROFIT, NON-RELIGIOUS, & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION)

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EDITORS: Dale Skillicorn and Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn

Contact at Rapid Offset Printing, 22 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, California 95076

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

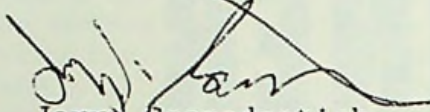
Dear members,

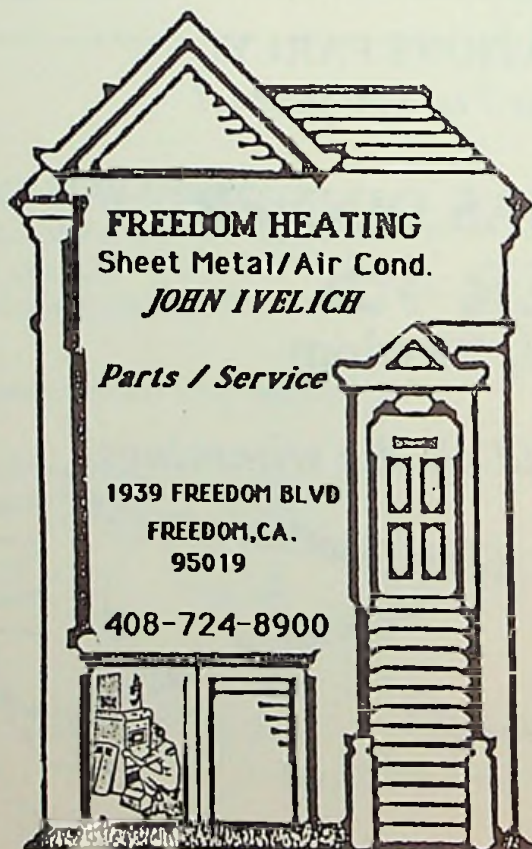
They say an apple a day will keep the doctor away. Well, the Apple Festival was a huge success. The weather warmed up and the people came out in great numbers.

Y.A.C.O. was represented in the parade. Thanks to Nevenka Radich and her sons Sasha, Misha and Bryan, who decorated the float.

Thanks to John Biskup for the use of his truck, and John Basor for driving it. Thanks to Fran Colendich and her children Katie and Nick, and also to Ann Nanut, for riding on the float. Thank you all. My thanks also to all the people who helped work in the kobasica booth at the Bazaar. George and Joan Jurickovich, Steve and Slavica Zelak, Zarko Radich, Geri Heebner, Tony and Emme Colendich, and Alex Solano. Great job by all. Many, many thanks.

Sincerely,


Jerry Gospodnetich



'Family Owned Since 1939'

P.S. -

TAKE NOTICE. Our election meeting will be held on the 13th of November instead of Nov. 6th.

Anyone wishing to run for office please contact any member of the Executive Board. The telephone numbers are on the back of the Kalifornski.

GET INVOLVED. THIS IS YOUR CLUB!

FROM THE EDITOR -

Several things have come up recently which we feel need comment. A number of members, mostly from out of town, have been receiving their KALIFORNSKI a week or so late. All we can say is that the mailings have all gone out together about a week before the first meeting or special event of each month. I've had a similar problem receiving mail (2½ weeks for a letter to reach me from Santa Cruz?!?). Short of personal hand delivery, I don't know how to get past the Post Office's problems.

Next - a few people have asked about when their membership dues needed to be paid. We have nothing to do with that at the KALIFORNSKI, but I can tell you that last year the YACO Board changed the dues term to be on a calendar year basis. That means that all dues become payable at the same time in January of each year.

Third - several people have asked about my being a candidate for 28th District Assemblyman. Since this is a "non-profit, non-religious & non-political organization", I won't make a campaign speech here for my brother (the Skillicorn running against Sam Farr) . . . but am mentioning this just to clear up the fact that it's my brother Jack, not me, who is running for office. (How about that, Pat . . . does that keep it non-political enough?)





FOOD

In the continental part of *Croatia*, vegetables and meat are cooked very much as in Austria and Hungary. The finishing touch is given by thickening dishes with flour and shortening and pouring cream over them.

There are not many entrées made with pastry and soft cheeses, but cottage cheese with cream is served instead.

PINWHEEL DUMPLINGS

KUVANI ŠTRUKLJI

Serves 6.

1 lb. flour	1 1/4 cups water
3 eggs	1/2 lb. cottage cheese
Salt	1 onion
1 tablespoon oil or	1 cup sour cream
1 rounded teaspoon	
butter	

Mix flour, 1 egg, salt, oil and a little water to make medium stiff dough. Knead the dough well. Cut in half and

shape into two balls. Let them stand 10 minutes. Roll out paperthin. Mix the cheese well with 2 eggs. Spread mixture over one half of the dough. Roll up like jelly roll and cut in 2 1/2-inch slices. Repeat the same operation with the second sheet of dough. Cook the slices in boiling salted water. Chop 1 onion finely and sauté in a tablespoon of fat or butter. Pour over the cooked slices. Top with cream. Serve with green salad, or as an entrée.

DISTANCES OF SOME YUGOSLAV FRONTIER CROSSING POINTS FROM MAJOR EUROPEAN CITIES (in km)

Sežana:	Zurich (Milan—Padua—Trieste)	734
	London (Calais—Lyons—Turin—Milan)	1,732
	Marseilles (Genoa—Milan—Trieste)	1,013
	Milan (Padua—Trieste)	434
	Paris (Lyon—Turin—Milan)	1,324
	Rome (Florence—Padua—Trieste)	685
Ljubelj:	Amsterdam (Cologne—Frankfort—Munich)	1,330
	Berlin (Jena—Nuremberg—Munich)	1,004
	Brussels (Nancy—Strassburg—Munich)	1,313
	Frankfort (Nuremberg—Munich)	853
	Hannover (Frankfort—Nuremberg—Munich)	1,168
	Copenhagen (Hannover—Frankfort—Munich)	1,747
	Munich (Salzburg—Villach)	474
	Oslo (Copenhagen—Hannover—Munich)	2,360
	Paris (Nancy—Strassburg—Munich)	1,287
	Stockholm (Copenhagen—Frankfort—Munich)	2,392
Sentilj:	Amsterdam (Frankfort—Munich—Vienna)	1,556
	Vienna (Graz)	250
	Berlin (Dresden—Brno—Vienna)	940
	Brussels (Nancy—Strassburg—Munich—Vienna)	1,539
	Frankfort (Nuremberg—Munich—Vienna)	1,539
	Copenhagen (Hannover—Munich—Vienna)	1,973
	Munich (Salzburg—Vienna)	700
	Ostend (Luxemburg—Munich—Vienna)	1,651
	Stockholm (Cassel—Munich—Vienna)	2,618
Goričan:	Berlin (Prague—Bratislava—Budapest)	1,174
	Budapest	243
	Moscow (Warsaw—Cracow—Budapest)	2,176
	Prague (Brno—Bratislava—Budapest)	836
Horgoš:	Berlin (Prague—Bratislava—Budapest)	1,092
	Budapest (Segedin)	161
	Moscow (Warsaw—Cracow—Budapest)	2,084
	Prague (Brno—Bratislava—Budapest)	754
	Warsaw (Cracow—Budapest)	868
Vatlin:	Bucharest (Timisoara)	619
	Timisoara	60

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DAY & NIGHT



**GOVORIMO
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Potpourri

BABE BRAUTOVICH HILL

Phew!! The Apple Festival is over. It was a big success, with thanks to many, including many thanks to Ann Soldo for all the publicity . . . Did you happen to see the parade?? Well, YACO's entry was a last ditch effort (8 a.m. on the morning of the parade) by Nevenka Radich. Between Nevenka and Ann Nanut they got John Biskup's truck, John Basor to drive, Fran Colendich to help decorate — and in an hour and a half they were costumed and ready to go. On the truck was Nevenka, Ann, Fran, Katy, Nick, Mis, Sasha and Bryan. They didn't win a prize, but they should get a round of applause just for effort alone . . . At the Oct. 2nd meeting I think there were only nine of us who turned out, but a good discussion took place. It was enlightening and very positive and constructive. Our November meeting and election night should be equally informative (changed from the 6th to November 13th). Sure hope to see as many of you there as possible to help us decide YACO's future. Present at the last meeting were Nick Miloslavich, Slavica Zalac, Naida Nicholas, Andy Gulermovich, Edith Knowles, Marcia Kohl, Jerry Gospodnetich and Carole, and of course Ron and myself . . . On wed., Oct 5th we went to E.A.Hall School for a band concert and "WOW!", WHAT a concert! It was the Travis Air Force Jazz Band, the "Commanders." It was 16 pieces of Big Band sounds; an hour and a half of memories. We saw Nina Matulich and Fran Osorio. I guess it was our era. You missed a fun evening . . . I'm running out of paper, but before I go, one last remark: Please come to the meeting in November, and don't forget our big Christmas Dinner on December 4th . . .

Toodle . . . ooo



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Seated anthropomorphic figurine, early neolithic, second half of the 3rd millennium B C (Kosovo Museum, Priština).

— from

"Treasures of Yugoslavia"

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PRILEP

PRINCE

MARKO

The road to Prilep runs first alongside vineyards which produce a tawny, almost *rosé*, white wine which I find excellent, and then crosses the Blato plain where, appropriately enough, water buffalo wallow in the muddy shallows. The land is patterned with bright green mosaics of rice fields, and in drier parts acres of white and purple opium poppies drowse languorously under the steeping sun.

Prilep, another tobacco town, sprawls across the prairie and is more or less surrounded by crenellated hills, so arid and bare they seem a proof of the old Macedonian proverb that where the Turk treads no grass grows. At a distance they look more like veined, rucked parchment. There is a comfortable new hotel (the Jadran) in the centre of the town near the bus depot; and I think it is worth spending a complete day in Prilep, especially Saturday, the market day. The tiny museum a few yards from the hotel has been devoted to a record of local Partisan activity. In fact, it was at Prilep that the Macedonian Resistance made their first attack in October '41.

The town, now prospering, is a most congenial place with rather the same character as Tetovo. There are a number of mosques and handsome houses, several Orthodox churches, a market and Čaršija area and a lot of quite interesting modern building. High above it juts an imposing rocky hill on which are the massive and haunting ruins of the castle of Marko Kraljević, son of King Vukašin (*kraljević* means 'king's son') of the fourteenth century, the central heroic figure of one of the most famous cycles of epic legends and songs in existence.

There are two accounts of **Prince Marko**. He was a historical figure and he became a legendary hero of the Serbs. He was a man of enormous strength (his mace alone weighed 186 lbs.) and of considerable cunning and he had an inexhaustible capacity for liquor. He was chivalrous, fearless and passionate. He was also capable of acts of the most ruthless brutality, even to women. Hector, Beowulf and Roland were not more heroic. Robin Hood, Tarzan and James Bond were mere neophytes by comparison.

He was also in league with the supernatural powers, more particularly the *vile*—the mountain fairies; no doubt relations of the Greek oreads. Marko also owned a horse, Šarac (Piebald), which was the fastest in the world and had the gift of speech. Šarac also had a considerable capacity for liquor and Marko always shared his wine with him.

Marko is quite often described in the ballads in the repetitive way characteristic of the genre. He is very big, with dark eyes and a black moustache as large as a six months' old lamb. He wears a *kalpak* (a fur hat) and a cloak made of wolf-pelts. Across his back is slung a spear and from his girdle hangs a damascened sword. From his saddle hang his mace and the big wineskin. Periodically you may meet somebody in much the same rig-out these days, though without the weapons.

In poetry and the popular imagination Marko was identified with the resistance against the Turks, the exemplar of heroic valour and the embodiment of the spirit of independence. In historical fact he became (like a good many other Serbs and Macedonians) a vassal of the Turks and died fighting for the Sultan *against* the Christians at the Battle of Rovine in Rumania in 1394. Before that conflict he is supposed to have prayed to God to give victory to the Christians even if it cost him his own life.

Legend and a ballad report that he died in this fashion: one morning he was riding Šarac along the road when the horse stumbled and wept, omens that Marko immediately recognised as evil. Whereupon a *vila* appeared and spoke to him thus: 'Brother-in-God,

Marko Kraljević, it is true that no one can take Šarac from you nor can you be killed by strength, sword, spear or mace. You are not afraid of any earthly knight. But you shall die, Marko. By the hand of God—that old slayer!”

Marko was then three hundred years old and Šarac had attained a hundred and sixty years. Marko accepted that his time had come. He killed his horse so that it should not fall into the hands of the Turks and gave it an elaborate burial. He then broke his sword and spear, threw his mace over the mountains into the sea and lay down and died.

One legend says that a priest found his corpse and took it to Mt Athos and buried it there. Others say he never died but, like King Arthur, sleeps—to rise again in time of need. A Bulgarian version records that he lies asleep in a great cave with his beard wound round and round him.

This is a very simplified account of a complex character about whom any Serb or Macedonian is prepared to talk at length, but it seems fairly clear that somewhere along the centuries the lines have gradually crossed and history and poetry have synthesised to produce one story or a series of stories for what seem to have been two quite different characters: brigand and patriot.

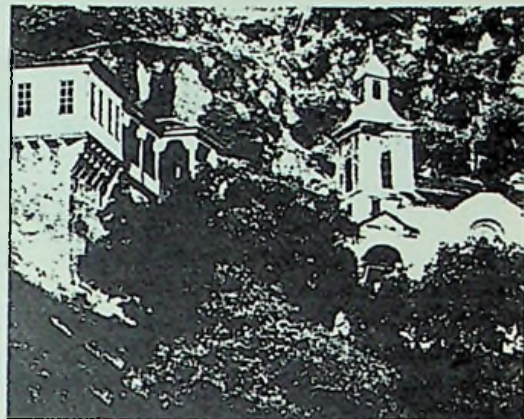
It is worth climbing up to the ghostly ruins of Marko's fortress. On the way there you will see an immense lump of stone which looks uncannily like an elderly elephant. Near it are several rough, oblong holes cut in the rock which look as if they must have been early Christian graves; but I have never been able to confirm this.

On the southern side of this hill is the **Monastery of Sv Archangel**, founded by Marko's father. On the doorway of the church are portraits of Vukašin and his son. One of the monks here will willingly take you round and will probably show you a carving of a cheerfully villainous and naked character riding a large horse. This is believed to be a representation of a pagan deity: Rhesus, the Thracian Rider, who was worshipped by the Roman soldiers. There may be some connection between this god and the personality in the Marko legend.

The monastery belongs to a group of six that have survived in this suburb of Prilep and which is referred to as the *varoš*, or 'the suburb'. Another worth visiting is Sv Nikola, in bright brick and mortar. Somehow it manages to be both natty and venerable, but its architects and artists are unknown. The frescoes are in three horizontal belts. At the bottom are Holy Warriors and Saints; next the sequence of The Passion; above, scenes from the Life of Christ. The Biblical events are in narrative sequence without much regard for traditional Byzantine iconography and there has been some effort here to solve problems of perspective. The scenes showing the *Last Supper* and the *Prayer on Mt Olivet* are outstanding in this respect.

The church of Sv Dimitrije is a conglomeration of several buildings from several periods. It was probably built early in the fourteenth century (Csar Dušan refers to it in 1335) but unfortunately most of the frescoes have rotted away. Of St Athanasius (the saint was a monk in the tenth century on Mt Athos) only the walls survive; but St Peter's, a plain, rough rustic church—it might almost be a barn—is in a much better condition. It is a single-aisled building with a very high apse whose interior was decorated with frescoes in four zones. The majority were done in the fourteenth century but only those on the west and north walls are well-preserved and worth looking at.

and from
"Treasures of Yugoslavia"



The church and monastery of the Archangel Michael at Varoš, Prilep, built in the 12th century. Participants in an international painters' colony stay in the monastery residential buildings every year.

Prilep

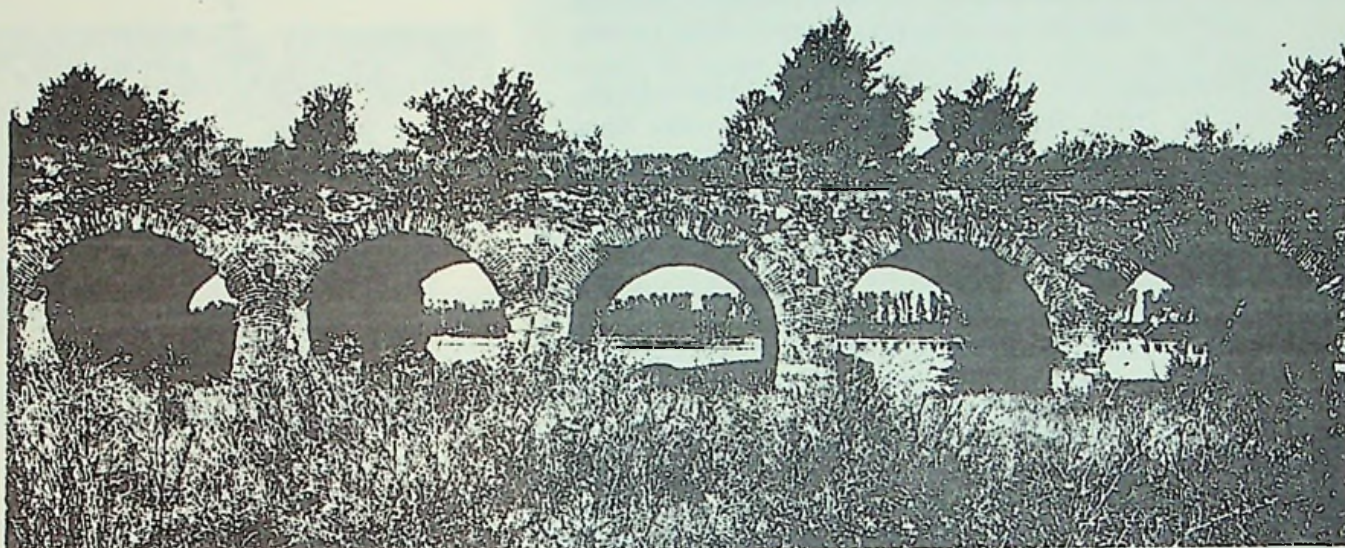
The town is located at the eastern edge of the Prilep plains beneath the Markove Kule and Selečka mountain. Traces of neolithic, late bronze and iron age settlement have been found in the neighbourhood, an abundance of archaeological finds indicating continued habitation over the centuries. The first fortifications on Markove Kule date from the Hellenistic period, and an urban community developed beneath the fortress in the 3rd and 4th centuries. Early Byzantine remains (5th—6th centuries) have been registered at several locations in the suburb at Varoš.

The town was first cited in 11th-century historical records. In 1014 in an account of a battle between Czar Samuil and Byzantine Emperor Basil II, Byzantine historian John Scylitzes wrote that after his defeat at Belasica Samuil withdrew to Prilep (*Prilapon*) where upon seeing his soldiers who had been blinded at the Byzantine emperor's orders he died in grief.

Archaeological excavation beneath Markove Kule has located an important early Slav settlement dating from the late 10th and early 11th centuries. The site includes the remains of several hundred wooden houses and a large necropolis, traces clearly visible on the rocks. Towards the middle of the 12th century stone replaced wood as building material. In addition to secular buildings there were sacral edifices: the church of St Demetrius and the monastic church of the Holy Archangel, both churches decorated with frescoes. In 1258 Prilep passed under the sway of Epirus, remaining in Byzantine hands until 1334 when it was taken over by Serbian Emperor Dušan. According to Treskavac monastery charters Prilep was a market-town.

šabac

Remains of Turkish fortifications at Šabac.



Šabac

A town on the right bank of the Sava. The first community to develop on the site of present-day Šabac was the medieval settlement of *Zaslon*. After Serbia's defeat in 1459 the settlement fell into Turkish hands. From 1475 to 1521 it was under Hungarian domination, and then taken again by the Turks. During the 17th and 18th centuries Šabac was on several occasions under Austrian administration, the Turks regaining control until the first Serbian uprising in 1804. On August 13, 1806 Karadjordje led the insurgents against the Turks at Mišar and defeated them soundly. Shortly afterwards the Turks handed the fort over to Karadjordje. Once free, Šabac prospered, particularly after the second uprising in 1815. Towards the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century the workers' movement began to take root in the town. The first worker-poet Kosta Abrašević lived here, and in 1903 the Workers' Society was formed. During World War I Šabac suffered under the Austro-Hungarian occupation, the enemy executing many of the townspeople. The town met the same fate in World War II. German occupation troops set up a *concentration camp* in 1941 imprisoning 30,000 inhabitants of the surrounding area.

The *Šabac fortress* was built by the Turks in 1470. An engraving dated 1493 shows how it looked at that time: the main fortress with strong ramparts and

numerous towers, and the fortified town around it. The community was surrounded by a large wooden pallisade, with towers at the corners.

The *church of SS Peter and Paul* in Šabac is notable because of its interior furnishing. Its iconostasis, the work of Pavle Simić, a Vojvodina artist (1818—1876), is of special interest. In the Kamički cemetery is the tomb of Kosta Abrašević and a monument in his honour. A *memorial cemetery* to patriots executed in World War II is found in the Donjošorski graveyard.

Of special interest in terms of architecture is the *Bishop's residence*, built in 1849 (it now houses a library), the *grammar school* built in 1856 in a neo-Romanesque style (it accommodates the local museum) and the building of the *Old hospital* in a late 19th-century Romantic style. Near the town on the field of Mišar is a *monument* erected to commemorate the glorious victory over the Turks.

Near Šabac in the village of Prnjavor is a *memorial chapel* with a tomb dedicated to those who died in the wars of 1912—1918. Wall paintings depict the execution and hanging of local citizens, villages being fired and pillaged, the work of Rista Bocarić.

Čokešina monastery, with church dedicated to the Assumption, is located near Prnjavor. This monastery existed in the 15th century. It was re-built by Miloš Obrenović in 1823. In the churchyard is the tomb of the Nedić brothers, heroes of the uprising of 1804.



1 General: Festivities in the Vineyard, 1970

FROM THE BOOK
"TREASURES OF YUGOSLAVIA"

available at the Watsonville City Library
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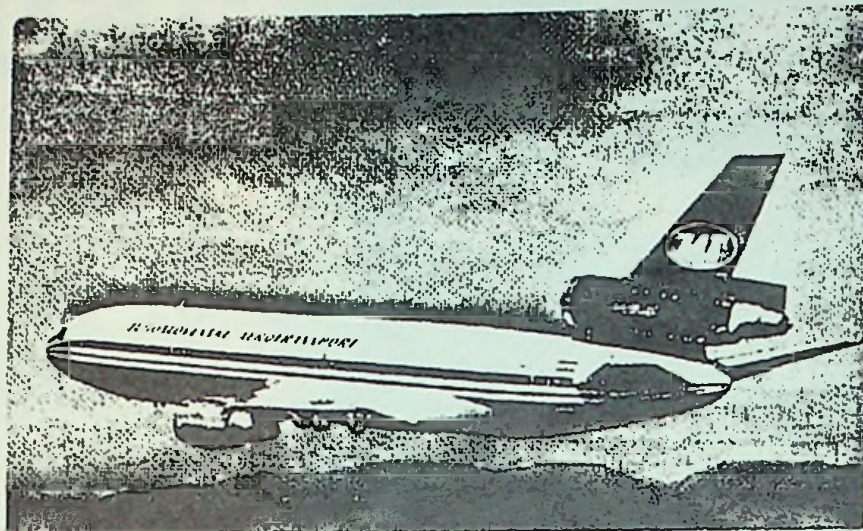
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JOIN US TODAY

YACO was established in 1979 as a non-profit club without political or religious ties for the sole purpose of bringing together Yugoslavs and other interested persons to make known and to preserve our Slavic heritage. We are proud that among our membership we have families and individuals whose roots represent each region of present-day Yugoslavia, as well as non-slavic members who support the club's goals.

A year-around series of programs and events has proven an enjoyable way for YACO to provide its focus on Slavic heritage. Such activities include picnics, lectures and slide presentations on Yugoslavia and its historic culture, plus potluck and sit-down dinners. We also publish a monthly newsletter, THE KALIFORNSKI, full of interesting articles, recipes, and news of our area's Yugoslav community.

Our meetings (the first Sunday of each month) may include a potluck, special dinner, films, dancing, and raffles, plus we hold an annual July barbeque.

Won't you accept our invitation to join us? We're sure you'll soon find YACO to be one of your favorite clubs.

Our dues are as follows:

Single membership \$12

Family membership \$18

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Birth date: _____

Husband: _____

Wife: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Interests: _____

Yugoslav Background: _____

Children under 18 included in Family Membership: _____

ATTENTION:

THE KALIFORNSKI is your publication. If there is anything in particular that you would like to see in any future issues, please don't hesitate to contact us. If you have any subjects relating to Yugoslav heritage or about Yugoslavs, here or abroad, that you would like to share or see published in this newsletter, please let us know. We would appreciate your input in publishing this newsletter each month. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us:

Dale Skillicorn and
Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn
c/o Rapid Offset Printing
22 East Lake Avenue
Watsonville, CA 95076
(408) 724-2900

SUGGESTED TOPICS:

1. Trips by YACO members
2. Visitors from the Old Country
3. Newspaper or magazine articles about Yugoslavia or Yugoslavs, local or abroad
4. Weddings, anniversaries, graduations, birth announcements, or special celebrations by YACO members
5. Civic or cultural contributions by Yugoslavs
6. Yugoslav recipes
7. Yugoslav songs, poetry or stories
8. Special family traditions for holidays, etc.
9. Yugoslav stories for children
10. Anything you think might be of interest to YACO members

NEW DEADLINE

A new DEADLINE has been set for the 10th of each month so that we might get the paper out even earlier. It seems that our members out of Watsonville are not receiving their KALIFORNSKI early enough to plan on attending any of our programs. Members in Watsonville receive their copies at least two days after mailing so it seems to be a problem with a hold up at the post office. If I don't have the information in time, I will not be able to publish it until the next issue. REMEMBER to send me any information by the 10th of each month.

OFFICERS

President:

JERRY GOSPODNETICH 724-7652

Vice President:

GEORGE JURICKOVICH 722-4444

Treasurer / Financial Secretary:

CAROLE GOSPODNETICH 724-7652

Secretary:

NICK MILOSLAVICH 476-7112

Publicity Director:

RON HILL 724-1284

CALENDAR

NOTICE —

The November Meeting
and Election of Officers
has been changed to:
NOVEMBER 13th,
7 p.m. at V.F.W. Hall
— Please attend and add
your voice to choosing
the officers for 1989!

DEC. 4 Meeting — 6 p.m., V.F.W. Hall
Christmas Dinner — 7 p.m.
Santa Claus



No Paper?

If someone you know is not receiving the KALIFORNSKI, please let us know. We publish this for you, the membership, and would like each of you to have the opportunity to keep in touch with YACO. Contact us at Rapid Offset Printing, 22 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076 — (408) 724-2900.

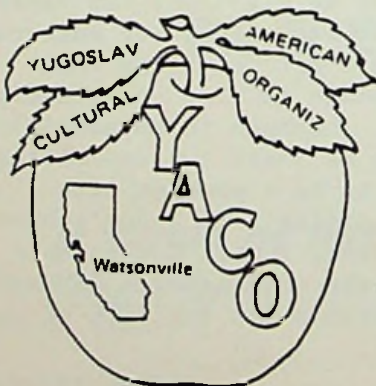
Dale Skillicorn and Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn

**YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN
CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.**

P.O. Box 226

Watsonville, CA. 95077

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